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COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED VALIDATION OF *CICADELLA* LATREILLE, 1817. Z.N.(S.) 457

(see volume 18, pages 163–167)

By W. J. Le Quesne (*Chesham, Bucks., England*).

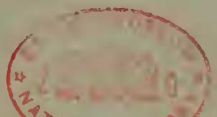
The case of *Cicadella* is complex. A number of taxonomic works have appeared using it in different senses over the past 20 years—here are some examples :—
Cicadella = *Tettigella* : Ribaut, 1952.
Cicadella = *Eupteryx* : Evans, 1947 ; Oman, 1949 (Beirne, 1956) ; Ossiannilsson, 1946 ; Kloet & Hincks, 1945 ; China, 1950 ; Esaki & Ito, 1954 ; Lindberg, 1947 ; Medler, 1942 ; Dlabola, 1954.
This selection of general works and check lists which came to hand suggests that Wagner's publication in *Bombus* (1950) has been followed by Ribaut, while three other authors in the last decade have kept the name *Tettigella* (or the derived subfamily name). After reading all the facts of this very confused case and some consideration, I feel that the unfortunate lapse of 11 years between Wagner's original application and the present have strengthened the case for retaining *Cicadella* Duméril, 1806, with *picta* Fabricius, 1794 (=*atropunctata* Goeze, 1778) as the type-species. This course, I think, will cause the less confusion.

COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED VALIDATION OF *ANILIUS* OKEN, 1815. Z.N.(S.) 1046

(see volume 18, pages 181–183)

By Hobart M. Smith (*Professor of Zoology, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, U.S.A.*)

The survey of herpetozoan names in Oken, 1816, is a valuable contribution to taxonomy. Since *Anilius* has been used almost without exception since Stejneger, 1907, for the snake known previously as *Ilysia*, and since the literature using *Ilysia* is not of such magnitude or variety as to be confusing, it is clearly in the interest of nomenclatural stability to preserve the name *Anilius* as applied for the past half century.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